



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the **PATENT APPLICATION** of:

Lo et al.

Application No.: 09/872,063

Confirmation No.: 3772

Filed: June 1, 2001

For: NON-INVASIVE PRENATAL
DIAGNOSIS

Group: 1634

Examiner: Goldberg, Jeanine Anne

Our File: JAK-PT001.1

Date: February 12, 2003

REPLY SUBMITTED WITH RCE

Box RCE
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Reply is responsive to the Final Official Action dated October 13, 2002 in light of the interview with the Examiner on November 26, 2002 and is submitted in conjunction with an RCE and an appropriate petition for extension of time.

Please amend the above-noted application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-23 and 31-36, without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims 37-48:

-- 37. A method performed on a serum or plasma sample taken from a pregnant female for identifying the fetal origin of a genetic trait, condition or abnormality

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